

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) DNA having embedded information, comprising:

a gene portion including a value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene which is provided in said gene portion by a source through one of selective breeding, cultivation and gene manipulation;

a portion which is other than said gene portion; and

a watermark comprising a nucleotide sequence which is not naturally occurring in said DNA and which is embedded in said portion which is other than said gene portion, and comprises source identification information which identifies said a source of said value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene in said gene portion.

6-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) DNA comprising:

a watermark comprising at least one special sequence which is not naturally occurring in said DNA and ~~that is intentionally designed and~~ is included as a part of a nucleotide sequence,

wherein said at least one special sequence comprises source identification information which identifies the source of a value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene which is included in a gene portion of said DNA by the source through one of selective breeding, cultivation and gene manipulation, and

wherein said at least one special sequence is embedded in said DNA.

9. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 8, wherein said at least one special sequence comprises a plurality of sequences embedded at predetermined locations of said DNA.

10. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 8, wherein said at least one special

sequence comprises a plurality of sequences having a plurality of types of patterns embedded at predetermined locations of said DNA.

11. (Currently amended) A nucleotide sequence in DNA, comprising:

a watermark comprising source identification information which identifies a source of a value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene in a gene portion of said DNA, said value-added gene being provided in said gene portion by said source through one of selective breeding, cultivation and gene manipulation,

wherein said information is embedded in said DNA and is not naturally occurring in said DNA.

12. (Currently amended) A cell in an organism, said cell having DNA comprising:

a gene portion including a value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene which is provided in said gene portion by a source through one of selective breeding, cultivation and gene manipulation;

a portion which is other than said gene portion; and

a watermark comprising a nucleotide sequence which is not naturally occurring in said DNA and which is embedded in said portion other than said gene portion, and comprises source identification information which identifies said a source of said value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene in said gene portion.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) DNA comprising:

a first portion comprising a value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene which is provided in said first portion by a source through one of selective breeding, cultivation and gene manipulation;

a second portion which is other than said first portion; and

a watermark comprising at least one nucleotide sequence which is not naturally occurring in said DNA and is embedded in said second portion, and which identifies said a source of said

value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene in said first portion.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said nucleotide sequence is embedded in said second portion such that said nucleotide sequence and said second portion are merged into a single molecule ~~predetermined gene comprises a value-added gene that is provided by one of selective breeding, cultivation, and gene manipulation.~~

18. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said at least one nucleotide sequence comprises a plurality of sequences having a plurality of types of patterns embedded at predetermined locations in said second portion.

19. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said at least one nucleotide sequence comprises a plurality of nucleotide sequences.

20. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 19, wherein said plurality of nucleotide sequences comprises different nucleotide sequences.

21. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said at least one nucleotide sequence is copy tolerant.

22. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said at least one nucleotide sequence is embedded at a random location in said second portion.

23. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said at least one nucleotide sequence and is not naturally generated through gene mutation.

24. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said at least one nucleotide sequence comprises one of a restrictive enzyme identification sequence and a promoter.
25. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said at least one nucleotide sequence is detectable using a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to said at least one nucleotide sequence.
26. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said at least one nucleotide sequence is embedded at a predetermined location in said second portion.
27. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 15, wherein said nucleotide sequence is correlated with said source identification information.
- 28.- 29.(Canceled)
30. (Currently amended) The DNA according to claim 5, wherein said source identification information comprises a nucleotide sequence which corresponds to said source of said value-added gene such that said source is identifiable to a party examining said DNA ~~nucleotide sequence comprises a watermark sequence.~~
31. (Currently amended) The DNA according to claim 5, wherein said value-added ~~predetermined~~ gene comprises a protein code sequence and transcription control information for said sequence.
32. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 5, wherein said portion which is other than said gene portion comprises a portion of said DNA which does not store a protein code sequence and transcription control information for said sequence.

33. (Currently amended) The DNA according to claim 5, wherein said nucleotide sequence of said watermark is embedded by said source in said portion which is other than said gene portion ~~predetermined gene comprises a gene which is produced by artificial, intentional manipulation.~~
34. (Previously presented) The DNA according to claim 5, wherein said gene portion is transcribed into RNA, and said portion other than said gene portion is not transcribed into RNA.